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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/533,632

05/02/2005

Tomoyasu Takase

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6323

513 7590 10/02/2008

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EXAMINER

LE, HUYEN D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2615

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/02/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



***Election/Restrictions***

1. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-7, drawn to a loudspeaker comprising a diaphragm, wherein one of the first portion and the second portion of the diaphragm has a cross section in a plane including the center axis, and the cross section of the one of the first portion and the second portion has an elliptic-arc shape.

Group II, claim(s) 8-13 and 20, drawn to a loudspeaker comprising a diaphragm, wherein the cross section of a fourth portion of the diaphragm includes a second arc having a radius larger than a radius of a first arc of the cross section of a third portion of the diaphragm, and wherein the fourth portion adjoins the third portion and is farther than from the second end of the voice coil than the third portion.

Group III, claim(s) 14-19 and 21, drawn to a loudspeaker comprising a diaphragm, wherein the diaphragm has a non-circular outer shape, and the portion of the diaphragm being provided inside the coil has a dent formed therein.

2. The inventions listed as Groups I, II and III do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: the diaphragm in Group I

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(Embodiment 1) has a cross section having an elliptic arc of ellipse, and the neighborhood of coupling section of the diaphragm has a small curvature to provide the diaphragm with a large rigidity; the diaphragm in Group II (Embodiment 2) has a fourth portion including a second arc which has a radius larger than a radius of the first arc of the diaphragm for increasing the rigidity of the neighborhood of the coupling section of the diaphragm to the voice coil; and the diaphragm in Group III (Embodiment 3) has a non-circular outer shape and the portion of the diaphragm inside the voice coil has a dent which reduces overall height of the diaphragm.

3. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To preserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

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*Conclusion*

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUYEN D. LE whose telephone number is (571) 272-7502. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, SUHAN NI can be reached on (571) 272-7505. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/HUYEN D. LE/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2615

HL  
September 29, 2008